Standby Lighting system at Airport

*133. SHRI. SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether standby arrangements for runway lights exist at all the airports in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons for blackout in Bangalore Airport on the 9th May, 2000; and

(c) the action proposed to provide the *infrastructure* for round the clock lighting system at the Airports?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Standby diesel generator sets have been provided at all the airports in the country. These generators are provided not only for main and standby runway lights but also for all other essential facilities and equipments functioning at the airport. Standby runway lightings also have been provided at 27 airports including Bangalore in the country.

(b) and (c) At Bangalore Airport, main as well as standby runway lights have been provided. The main circuit was provided in 1987 and the standby circuit was installed in 1995. Modifications of the main circuit was being undertaken when some cables got damaged which resulted in failure in both the main and standby circuits on 9th May, 2000. The same was repaired and made operational immediately.

Creation of *Appellate* Authority for Airports

*134. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the need to have an appellate authority for airports with representations from the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Airlines and the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has been felt in the past;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry is examining a proposal to set the process of forming a regulatory mechanism for airports in the country in motion; and